

Building Up the Starved Child



WEIGHING AN UNDERWEIGHT BOY

Partial Starvation a Common Affliction Among American Boys and Girls—Uncle Sam Tackles the Problem of Feeding Underweights.

By ARTHUR DODD

THE General Federation of Women's Clubs has issued a call to all the State federations to join their forces in a fight against starvation of infants and young children in this country.

Rather a striking idea, is it not? For this is supposed to be a land of plenty.

Suppose somebody told you that one in every five school children in the United States showed visible signs of starvation. You would not believe it, would you?

Yet it is a fact. The U. S. States Relations Service says so, and its statement is backed by the government Children's Bureau.

Indeed, the case is really much worse, for in some parts of this country 40 per cent, 50 per cent, and even 60 per cent of the children are undernourished.

Four hundred and sixty-eight out of every thousand young men who responded to the war draft were re-

jected as unfit because they were poor physical specimens—deficient in height, weight, chest measurement, or muscular strength. They were products of undernourishment or preventable defects in their early years.

The undernourished boy or girl grows up under-sized, and is likely to be unable to do the average work of a man or woman. "Malnutrition," due to insufficient or improper feeding, is liable to show effects in later life, in poor health and feeble resistance to disease.

Hence the great importance of the movement which is now being vigorously pushed all over the United States, and which seeks to procure proper and adequate feeding for every child. The Co-operative Extension Service, maintained by the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural colleges, is leading it, and help is contributed from many sources, notable among them being the Red Cross and Child Health Organization

of America.

Keeping Tab On The Kiddies

Millions of children of both sexes and all ages have been weighed and measured—one of the objects in view being to find out exactly what is the normal height and weight of boy and girl for each age from birth to maturity, and just what the weight should be per inch of stature.

The work is carried on mainly through the schools, the children being weighed once a week or once a month, to record their gains in pounds. Underweight boys and girls are picked out and put through regular courses of feeding, to bring them up to normal. The results obtained are wonderful.

The children are readily interested. They are made to understand that if they wish to be well and strong, and grow fast and big, they must eat plenty of the right kind of food. Every child wants to know whether he or she is right up to the mark in body development; it is a point of personal pride. No girl or boy is willing to be a physical defective.

To help preach this new gospel, the Child Health Organization of America gives steady employment to two professional clowns, retired from the sawdust arena, who go about from town to town and from village to village, giving entertainment-talks to school children on topics dietetic. For this purpose they are "rented" by the extension service and other organizations.

One of the clowns is called Cho-Cho

(a name taken from the initials of the organization), and he begins his lecture by tumbling into the schoolroom head-over-heels with a market basket of vegetables on his arm. He explains to the children, among other things, why vegetables are good for them to eat.

A Talking Vegetable

The other, called the Jolly Jester, is a clown ventriloquist. He causes a huge imitation carrot to cry because the children are not eating him. He has a hobby-horse that neighs and tells how good oats are, in the shape of oatmeal. A counterfeit monkey, fitted over his hand glove-fashion, does tricks, but never to bed early— plenty of sleep being necessary for children who would keep well and grow strong.

There is also a Health Fairy, impersonated by a suitably costumed young woman who talks to the children about what they should eat. She recommends lots of fruit and vegetables, eggs and cereals, with avoidance of much candy between meals, because it takes away the appetite. One thing she advises is a rest hour every day, which gives the human system a chance to catch up.

Following up this idea, each school appoints every month the most deserving boy to assume the role of Cho-Cho, and the best behaved girl to take the part of Health Fairy, both



CHO-CHO TALKS FRUIT AND VEGETABLES



A SCHOOL LUNCH KITCHEN OUTDOORS



MEASURING A CHILD AT SCHOOL



THE CLOWN VENTRILOQUIST

has had no breakfast.

Simple Cooking Arrangements

Every child should have at midday a hot meal. This is an idea which the health crusaders are trying hard to convert into substantial fact. To install the requisite simple equipment costs little, and the children may themselves do the cooking, or somebody may be hired to do it. At one rural school in Illinois the pupils were taught to boil eggs and potatoes in a tin pail over a fireplace built of a few bricks, until the local school board gave them a stove and utensils. Coores is highly recommended for the noon meal, it costs only four or five cents a cup. Milk soup, or anything with milk in it, is excellent. Macaroni and potatoes are good.

School boards in many places are co-operating in this child-feeding work. Health boards likewise, and women's clubs are interested. In one State, Utah—the only State that provides for health education—the subject is made part of the system of instruction in the schools. There can be no question that before long the matter will be dealt with in a practical way in all American schools, under direction of the school or health authorities.

The Public Health Service says that a diet of only meat, bread, and cereals does not promote the best growth and development. It should be supplemented by an abundance of milk, butter and green leafy vegetables which are rich in the growth-stimulating "vitamins."

AMONG THE MOVIE STARS



NORMA TALMADGE AND EUGENE O'BRIEN IN "THE VOICE FROM THE MINARET"



RUDOLPH VALENTINO AND LILA LEE IN "BLOOD AND SAND"

"The Voice from the Minaret"—"Monte Cristo"—"The Sin Flood"—"Blood and Sand"—"The Fighting Guide"—Shannon Day.

THE VOICE FROM THE MINARET, the next picture of Norma Talmadge has an itinerary that would be the envy of any ambitious tourist. The story opens in Bombay, proceeds through the Suez



WILLIAM DUNCAN AND EDITH JOHNSON IN "THE FIGHTING GUIDE"

Talmadge fold again and will play opposite Norma.

"Monte Cristo"

"Monte Cristo" is based on Alexandre Dumas' unifying story, "The Count of Monte Cristo." The plot deals with the stirring adventures of a young French sailor, Edmond Dantes, who, on the eve of his marriage, is arrested and thrown into prison on false charges. He stays there for twenty years and finally makes his escape. A fortune comes to him from a former fellow prisoner. He then seeks revenge and how he succeeds without actually shedding any blood by his own hands makes this a story and screen drama of uncommon worth. John Gilbert and Estelle Taylor head the cast.

"The Sin Flood"

In this unusual story by Henning Berger, a mountain stream is seen to swell into a torrent to overflow its banks and to flood the valleys below. As the flood rises, it raises the level

of the reservoir above the city of Cottonia, a Mississippi river town in which the action of the story takes place. The telephone operators notify the city of the impending doom. A group of eleven people find themselves marooned in a fashionable cafe near the Stock Exchange. Here they become aware of the rising flood in the possibility of their being trapped in the flood-tight and air-tight barroom, and in the face of what they believe to be certain death they lay down their burden of life and prepare for the end beyond. How they are saved and the effect of their rescue upon their resolutions makes one of the strongest and most romantic episodes ever shown in a motion picture. Helene Chadwick, Richard Dix and James Kirkwood play the principal parts.

"Blood and Sand"

Juan Gallardo (Rodolph Valentino) is a poor boy, the son of the shoemaker in a little Spanish village. But



JAMES KIRKWOOD, HELENE CHADWICK AND RICHARD DIX IN "THE SIN FLOOD"



SHANNON DAY

he is ambitious and romantic and longs to be a famous torreador. After attaining some local successes in the bull-ring, he rises to prominence and is taken to Seville, where he soon becomes the favorite torreador of Spain. Before Juan attains fame, he marries his pretty little boyhood sweetheart, Carmen (Lila Lee). During one of Juan's triumphs in the bull-ring, there is attracted to him Dona Sol (Nina Saldi), a flirtatious beauty of the Spanish Court. Juan succumbs to her vampish charms. This causes a break between Juan and his wife. Dona Sol plays with him for a while and then casts him off. Juan's passion for her turns to hate and, when



JOHN GILBERT AND ESTELLE TAYLOR IN "MONTE CRISTO"

the summer time. William Duncan, as Ned Lightning, a guide for wealthy tourists and sportsmen, opens the picture wearing a beard. Later he determines to pose as the nobleman in order to ferret out what he senses to be villainy at headquarters of the nobleman's company. In order to accomplish this he drafts the services of the Englishman's staid valet, who takes a liking to the rollicking wretch.

Edna Duncan, costar of Duncan is cast as the heroine. She falls in love with Duncan, who saves her father from an undesired execution at the hands of an unscrupulous conspirator.

Shannon Day

Not many months ago Shannon Day was dancing in the Bigfield chorus. Today she is attracting considerable attention on the screen. Her first part of prominence was in "Man, Woman and Marriage," starring Dorothy Foy. She has since appeared in many important film productions, her latest appearance being in "Eddie First" and "One Clear Call."

Paul Parrott

Paul Parrott, frolicking about in comedies, came saw and conquered—and was immediately dubbed "the dandiest comedian." Whether the name fits Paul is another question, but if a "dandiest" wears as odd flamboyant rousabouts, has a pair of pathetic eyes and a maiming walk—then Paul is it.



PAUL PARROTT

"The Fighting Guide"

The picture deals with the experience surrounding a "tired" Englishman who finds himself with his valet in the northwest regions of America during